Capital City Capers

The News Organ of the Capital City Squares
A Member Club of the IAGSDC

Merci! Danke! Thank You!

The official year of gay square dance activities, culminating in "Cast a Shadow in the Sun," the 8th IAGSDC Convention in Miami, is winding down although plenty of events are still on tap for the summer. It is, however, time to stop and say thank you to those who have given of themselves this past year for the greater benefit of us all.

First on the list must be Robin Alpenglow, who stepped in and took over the instructing of the 1990–91 Basic–Mainstream class. Robin had some big shoes to fill, taking over from Karl Murray, who had been putting new square dancers through their paces since the inception of Capital City Squares. But Robin's good humor, love for square dancing, and many, many hours of preparation served her very well. She has taken nearly thirty new square dancers through the 67 Basic and Mainstream calls. Over the last eight months she has gained new authority and teaching talent. We are very lucky to have her return for next year's new class. Way to go, Robin!

George Fox was reelected CEO by the Board of Directors at last week's meeting. George has headed Capital City Squares during the last few years of its

Continued on Page 4

In this Issue

2 The CEO Speaks!

3 May Board Minutes

5 Convention Tips

6 Have You Dangled Recently?

7 Angle

7 Hunk!

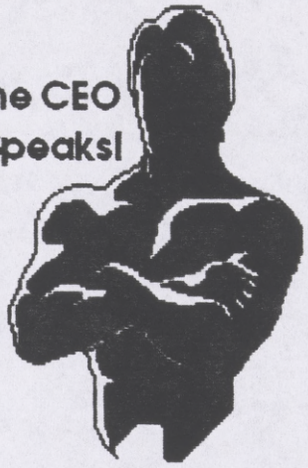
7 Get Well, Don!

8 May Birthdays

8 Upcoming Events

11 May Calendar

The CEO Speaks!



(Ya mean we still have him? Isn't there some kinda law?!)

Greetings once again!

Welcome to the new Board members (Okay, so Rick was reelected and Kenric was his class rep and has been our Party Chief), especially Mark! At the Board meeting he picked up a pen, and when we realized he knew how to hold it pretty well, voila! he was secretary! Thanks, Mark, welcome and get to work. Welcome back Rick (treasurer) and Kenric. Yes, that does mean you have me for yet another year as (giggle) "CEO" unless the Vacaville facility finds me....

My heartfelt thanks to Mary Jo and Bill, our former Board members. Words cannot express how I feel about their support and hard work on the Board. Bill will continue as our newsletter editor, for which I am very thankful. Mary Jo will be relocating to the American South (Mobile?) in the not too distant future. MJ, I wish you fame, fortune, and health; I am really going to miss you a lot, my friend.

Many thanks to Robin and Kris for their continued untiring efforts and SUCCESS in teaching our dancers. Accolades and great Laudings! Thank You!

'Tis May — and after a very busy April, this month seems almost tame! ALMOST.

Thanks to WSD for a Fun Banner Dance on April 6th. It was really great fun for all involved. Thank you for a wonderful evening!

FIFE's — ah FIFE's!! Did we have fun or what? After all my hyperventilation during the previous few days, it really did turn out well. Even the weather cooperated (mostly). I do believe everyone had Fun — and my own thanks to Fife's management in general and especially their willingness to cordon off most of their parking lot so we had room to dance! I believe we had 88 people dancing (mebbe more) at once, with some still sitting out! That was wonderful. Thanks to Jeff and Art, we had the most beautiful (and YUMMY) cake for dessert — unfortunately, the creators thereof could not attend. (Thanks, Loren, for delivering the cake.) David and Michael, ya did a great job with decorations and posters, and David did a great joy on the "commemorative" dangle! Without Tom's computer work and getting the lists organized, things would not have worked out really well in that department! Thank you, Tom. [Thanks, also, to the sound and lighting crew — George, Kenric, Tom — for setting up the parking lot for night dancing, and to Tammy and Bonnie for feeding anyone that came by.] Once again, without the help of numerous people, our 10th Anniversary Celebration and Retreat in Guerneville would nothavebeensuchfun.My Thanks to ALL OF YOU!

FUN DANCING — Please note that we cannot use the school May 15th, so we are moving that to the 22nd, one week later.

CONVENTION — What can I say?! MIAAAAMI is going to be so much fun! Those going should remember to take their club shirts for the Grand March and Picture!. Please, do not forget.

June 8th — Don't forget our own Graduation Celebration Hoedown and Workshops in honor of the newest Full Plus and Mainstream Dancers (Yes, I know they finished long ago!). There won't be a potluck, but do bring finger foods for the hoedown. See the Flyer herein.

Towhomeverorwhateverl missed, I apologize! See Ya Dancin!

❧ George-

May Board Minutes

May 1, 1991

The meeting was held at Bill and Michael's lovely home in Citrus Heights. Upon my arrival, I was greeted warmly and made welcome and then informed that my initiation to the Board included being filmed naked with Kenric's new Sony cam-corder, which will be toted to Convention in Miami and used to record all the frolicking and frivolity that will be missed by folks like me. Fortunately, the filming never took place and the meeting got rolling around 7:10 or so. Attending were Bill, Michael, David, Rick, George, Kenric, and Mark.

The first item attended to was selecting which recently elected Board member would hold what position. A motion was made, seconded, and passed and the results were that Rick would continue as Treasurer, George would continue as CEO, and Mark would function as Secretary. (... and away we go ...)

George informed us that Foggy City Dancers has proposed that the 1996 IAGSDC Convention be held in San Francisco, which would be 10 years after San Francisco's hosting the Convention in 1986. Foggy City is requesting all Northern California clubs become involved in helping to organize the '96 Convention. Helping may include financial assistance and leg work. Hosting a Convention involves a tremendous amount of effort (Ask James). Kenric suggested sending a Board representative to Foggy City's Board meeting to feel things out [to coin a phrase] before committing to involvement. Kenric then volunteered to represent us at FCD's meeting. This is convenient as his cousin has an apartment in SF, where he is welcome to stay. FCD is seeking commitment from us in 2 weeks.

Concerns were raised about the current lack of women on the Board since Mary Jo has left office. However, attendance at the meetings by Robin and Kris (with Cindy) help to compensate for Mary Jo's absence.

Freeman from WSD has suggested to George that Sacramento offer to host a Convention. George mentioned that the Raddison is about the only place in town big enough to accommodate us all. Wouldn't **that** be fun!

William Land School may not be available for our dancing beyond June, says George. He won't have an answer on the matter until June 1st. We currently have a hoedown scheduled there for June 8th (Graduation).

After tossing some figures around and hunting for a solar-powered calculator (Michael), Rick says the Treasury stands at $2,640.00, minus the total cost of Club insurance (per David) of $135.00 even, leaving $2,505.00. Purchasing the 22 shirts this year will cost $660, and $500 will be spent for badges. Yikes! few things are cheap these days.

Dangles are for sale on dance nights at 75 cents each, except for the anniversary dangle, which is $1.25. Since many of us don't know squat about Dangles, I believe Bill will include an informative section in this newsletter concerning them. George compared them to Boy Scout merit badges, which means little to me as I was a YMCA Indian Guide. We wore feathers, beads, and leather! (And slept in one big Teepee.)

Continued on Page 4

Capital City Capers
The News Organ of the Capital City Squares
P.O. Box 19986
Sacramento, CA
95819-0986
Editor, Bill McCrory

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily the views of the CCS Board

Class/Club Dues:
$90 a year; $10 a month
Due on the 15th of the month
Newsletter only: $12 a year

Capital City Squares Board of Directors
George Fox, C.E.O.
Mark Smithson, Secretary
Rick Arts, Treasurer
Kenric Brown, History Liaison & Parties
David Levy, Contracts
Bob Stahmer, New Class Rep.
Kris Corbridge, Plus Class Instructor
Robin Alpenglow, MS Class Instructor

Joy TeSelle & Margaret Coelho
Club History

Merci! Danke! Thank You!
Continued from Page 1

greatest growth and must take some responsibility for that growth. George's leadership has taken Capital City Squares to a new level of achievement and recognition among gay and straight square dance clubs. His latest achievement was our 10th Anniversary Celebration at Fife's. George sweats blood before and during events such as this, but he carried it all off with aplomb and professionalism. You wouldn't believe that he had never coordinated the sleeping, eating, and dancing activies of a hundred people before. George thanks a lot of people in his CEO Speaks! column, but without his leadership and inspiration, none of this would have come off. We are indeed lucky to have George back in the saddle for next year.

Special recognition must also go to Kris Corbridge, our Plus class instructor. Her great knowledge and love of square dancing shows and inspires all her students to not just dance but learn the plus calls. It was because of her inspiration that I was able to define "crossfire" outloud a few weeks ago. With luck we will have Kris back next year at the helm of the new Plus class.

There are a lot of people who do a lot for us in Capital City Squares. Some of them have been thanked in this newsletter. But it is the combined efforts of all of us that help make Capital City Squares the premiere gay square dance club it is today. Thank you all!

❧

Board Minutes
Continued from Page 3

David brought up a couple of matters for discussion, the first one being an Addendum to our bylaws as an insurance disclaimer and another possibly putting together a new member "Orientation" packet for next fall.

The Club dues to IAGSDC of $25 per year are paid through 1991.

The Board discussed changing meeting nights to Thursday, which would conflict with TNT's. Bill doesn't mind missing TNT's once a month because he always has to be reminded of what they did the week before anyway (This is his own admission).

It sounds like the retreat at Fife's was a great success. Some folks were a bit whiney about carrying baggage (and rugs) and eating with plastic utensils, but overall a great time was had by all (one way or another).

We will be in "The Barn" in Orangevale for our Hoedown in July. James Ozanich is looking for a caller for our new members hoedown on August 24th. Other Hoedowns to look forward to are scheduled for August 16 (Anne Uebelacker) and September 14th possibly at Rory and Kenric's fabulous ranch in Auburn with Uebelacker again calling. Michael tells me that Anne is one of the best callers in North America. Other hoedowns are scheduled for December 7th, February 1, 1992, and June 6, 1992.

Fife's may not be available to us next year, so Tom Sachs is looking into alternate possibilities. One possibility is the VFW Hall, which is next to a Sheriff's office. How convenient for those of us who love a man or woman in uniform! Next year a separate committee will be formed to organize the retreat at Fife's or wherever. This committee will be led by Tom Sachs.

There are 20 volunteers to work our booth at the Freedom Fair (June 15) this year! We won't be putting on a demonstration because square dancing loses something when you are sitting below the stage where it is being performed.

Robin did a wonderful job molding us beginning dancers into the Mainstreamers we are now. She will work with the beginners again next year, also. Kris hasn't made a decision one way or the other yet whether to teach next year's Plus class one more year.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 6th and will be held either at Bill and Michael's or at Rory and Kenric's at 7:00 PM.

Glad to know y'all!

Sincerely,

❧ Mark Smithson

Convention Tips

[Liberally adapted from an article in WSD's *Quarterly Selections*, which was liberally adapted from an article in *Borderlines*, the official newletter of Vancouver's Squares Across the Border, which was published just before last year's IAGSDC Convention in Vancouver]

What to Expect

1. Blue skies, sunshine, and sandy beaches.

2. Not much sleep. Between dancing and meeting new friends, sleep will be last on your list.

3. Improving your dancing skills. You won't believe how easy dancing your program will be after the weekend.

4. Lots of laughter, wonerful conversation, andd spectacular Yellowrocks.

5. A sense of friendship and support.

6. Sore feet!

Planning Hints

1. Your little black book will come in handy to help keep in touch with all those new friends. In addition, subscribe to *Bradley Bell* at the Convention. It anticipates listing 400 subscribers!

2. Money: You'll find things to buy as there will be vendors at the Convention. Your registration includes a banquet on Saturday night and a brunch on Sunday. Otherwise, you're on your own for meals. Beverages in the hotel are likely to be expensive.

3. The dance manual for the program you are dancing. It is a good reference if you're shaky on anything.

4. Participate as much or as little as you choose; there are no rules about amount of participation. But don't push yourself too much. Know your capabilities. It's a shame to over do on Friday and not be able to have fun on Saturday. Don't hesitate to ask questions if your're unsure about anything. This is a learning weekend.

Courtesies

1. Start the Convention with no florishes. They vary a lot from club to club. Learn the ones you like, but respect the right of others to omit them.

2. Don't shun a forming square. It's unfriendly and discourteous to pass by a forming square and look for another.

3. Dance only the programs you know, unless you are attending an introductory workshop.

4. Don't abandon your square. Once in a square, never leave it — regardless of the difficulties. If you must leave the square before the tip is over, get someone to tag it.

5. Be positive and friendly. Introduce yourself at the beginning of the tip to dancers you don't know. A positive attitude is contagious, adds to the fun, and actually improves the dancing of the square.

Pointers for Better Dancing

1. Join hands automatically whenever possible after each call. This establishes the formation you are in and prepares you for whatever call may come next. When there isn't time to join hands, touch hands in passing to establish the formation between calls.

2. Believe the caller. Try to execute the call or direction as well as you can, even if you don't understand why or if it seems strange.

3. If you are lost, don't turn around. Look around by turning your head. Move slowly in a general forward direction with your hands slightly up so that you can be easily pulled into place.

4. Don't get frantic. Keep the square tight and try to get in the position you would be in if you had done the call. Look where everyone else is to see where you have to be.

Continued on Page 6

Convention
Continued from Page 5

5. Try to help someone who is lost. Use hand signals and point to the spot where he or she should be.

6, Stand your ground. If you have done the call correctly, don't let someone who is unsure of the call make you change your position. This will keep the square going.

7. Don't give up. When you hear a call you haven't heard before, don't give up and quit. Most of the time the caller will immediately tell you how to do it by cueing you.

8. Breaking down in a hash call. All eight dancers should go to their original homes. Square up and then have the head couples slide to the right and form normal facing lines of four. Because of the nature of calling, you'll start dancing sooner from facing lines than from standing in a square formation.

9. Breaking down in a singing call. Square back up with the gents at home with any lady. Singing calls have 7 sections: Open, 2 rotations, middle, 2 rotations, and close. If you've been watching the progression of the ladies and are aware of the section where the square broke down, ladies can move to the proper gent.

11 Learn the definition. In learning a call, understand its definition, rather than just memorizing it from a particular position. Mentally cue the call to yourself each time you execute it. If you know the definition of the call, you will be able to do it from any position the caller uses.

11 Bidancual. While you get a chance to dance with more people by being able to dance either the gent or the lady position, Convention is not the place to start "switching." You have the opportunity to make a lot of friends. Do what you can to do the best you can.

12 Have a great time!

Have You Dangled Recently?

Dangles, or Fun Badges as they are sometimes called, are those half–inch square or odd–shaped metalic or plastic things one sees hanging from square dance club name badges. These badges are earned by doing something involving square dancing.

Everyone who attended our 10th Anniversary Retreat at Fife's received a dangle commemorating our 10th anniversary, just for being there!

Angels for this most recent Basic–Mainstream class are due a special Angel fun badge. They can request them from Cindy in the stage area on Club night.

Other dangles can be purchased from Cindy for $1 each to commemorate many and diverse achievements as square dancing in a pool (Ducky badge), dancing at a school (Schoolhouse badge), dancing to tapes (Skunk badge), dancing without using hands (Venus de Milo badge), and traveling 50 miles to a square dance (Stage Coach badge).

Dangles are a fun way for clubs to earn money and to individualize a name badge. Those in attendance at the Miami Convention will find a special room that sells thousands of badges, trinkets, etc., all connected in some way to square dancing.

But go easy; you can overdo it. At one time Chuck Kitlinger had badges going up one side of his chest and down the other; he looked like a South American general. And then there's Dameon, who decorates his name badge and dangles with rhinestones.

In any case, dangles or fun badges are for fun. So be sure to sign up for the fun badge tour at the Convention and start your collection.

Angie Foft–McCrory 1976–1991

On Thursday morning, April 25, we had to put our dog, Angie ("the most famous dog in gay square dancing," Robin once said), to sleep after several months of a deteriorating heart condition.

Angie was a wonderfully affectionate and personally social dog. She loved to be "hostess," enjoying the company and any snacks she could beg, at CCS Board meetings (where she would bark at George for goodies if he got too long winded) and the pool-parties/potlucks. She liked the Freedom Fair and last year even got her picture (with us) in *MGW* — captioned "Leather and Fur."

She was very much a part of our family and is deeply missed. She had many friends and fans, and we want to thank the many of you for the calls, cards, even flowers (!); we are most appreciative. If any of her friends wish to remember Angie, a gift to The Hope House, Box 2161, Sacramento, CA 95812, would be our choice. Her generous and loving spirit would approve.

Thank You,

❧ Bill and Michael

Get Well, Don!

Don Unruh, past CEO of Capital City Squares, was hospitalized recently. But after receiving an angioplasty (sp.) to unclog some blood vessels, he was released and is well on the way to recovery. He is back dancing with Prime 8's a few tips at a time. Way to go, Don!

May Birthdays

1	Margaret Coelho
5	Chuck Kitlinger
6	Pete Combs
13	Rodney Palmer
18	Nick Smiley
19	Gary Olsen
21	Michael Gill

Coming Events

* signifies an ostensibly "straight" event

IAGSDC Bulletin Board 1–(503)–640–4262

May

3–5	Rehoboth Beach Fly–In, Chesapeake Squares, Baltimore
3–5	Spring Round Up Fly–In, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver
5	A2/C1/C3 Dance (Norm Poisson), Midnight Squares, SF
10–11	*Johnny Preston Weekend, Plus/A1/A2/C1, Grass Valley
17–19	*24th Annual State Convention, MS/Plus/Advanced. California Single Square Dance Clubs, Pleasant Hill/Concord, CA
17–19	*Advanced & Challenge Dance (Ron Libby), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle
24–26	*38th Golden State Round Up, annual Northern CA Sq Dancers Assoc convention, Oakland Convention Center (next to Oakland Hyatt Regency)
24–26	IGRA Great Plains Regional Rodeo, Oklahoma City
24–27	Cast a Shadow in the Sun, 8th IAGSDC Convention, Miaaami
31–6/1	*Dynamite Weekend (Dave Stevens), TNT's, Roseville

June

8	Graduation Workshops/Hoedown, Capital City Squares, Sacramento
14–16	"Substitute the Rose", Rosetown Ramblers, Portland
15–16	*Advanced & Challenge Dance (Jonny Preston), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle
20–22	*25th National Advanced & Challenge Square Dance Convention, Virginia Beach, VA
27–29	*40th National Square Dance Convention, Salt Lake City
29	WSD Pre-Parade Gay Day Dance, St. Paulus Church, SF
30	San Francisco Gay Pride Day

July

4?	Load the Boat III, Times Squares, New York City

4 WSD Angel Island Picnic
5–7 IGRA Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo, Denver
20 MS–Plus Workshops & Dance (Dave Wilson), CCS, Cook's Barn, Orangevale, CA

August
1–4 IGRA Annual Convention and Dance Competition, Albuquerque
2–4 Geoduck Fly–In, Puddletown Squares, Seattle
16 MS–Plus Dance (Anne Uebelacher), CCS, Sacramento
17 WSD Club La Star, San Francisco
23–25 English Bay Round Up & Boat Cruise, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver
24 New Square Dancers Hoedown, CCS, Coloma Center, Sacramento
30–2 S Chicago Cross Fire (Sandra Bryant), Chi–Town Squares, Chicago

September
1 WSD Dance (Debra Parnell), St. Paulus Church, SF
20–22 Leather Weekend, San Francisco
20–22 *1991 Fun Festival, Plus/Advanced, San Joaquin Valley Dance Assn, Stockton, CA
24 ?Bradley Family National Holiday
27-29 WSD Camp Caz Retreat (Mike Green), Way up above the Russian River
27–29 Huajatolla Showdown Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus & The Wilde Bunch, Walsenburg, CO
27–29 IRGA San Diego Chapter Rodeo, San Diego

October
? Times Squares Fly-In, New York City (Anybody know when?)
18–20 IGRA Finals Rodeo, Wichita
30 WSD Halloween Dance (Dave Turney), St Paulus Church, SF

Late October
First Fly–In, Alamo City Wranglers, San Antonio, TX — Tentative

November
2 Foggy City Anniversary (Eric Henerlau), FCD, SF
8–10 Annual Fly–In, DC Lambda Squares, Washington, DC
8–10 IGRA Rodeo, Dallas, TX
23 WSD Dance (Craig Rowe), St. Paulus Church, SF
29–D 1 Anniversary Dance & Fly–In, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver

December
7 CCS Workshops and Hoedown, Sacramento

1992

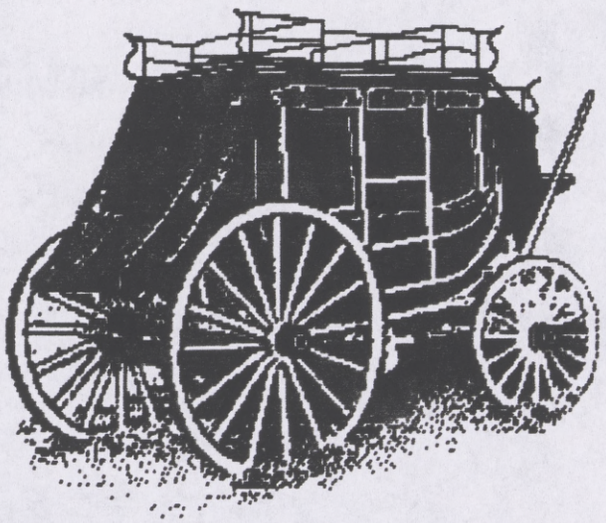
February
1 CCS Workshops and Hoedown, Sacramento
14–16 5th Anniversary Fly–In, Tinseltown Squares, Hollywood, CA

March
13–15 10th Anniversary Celebration & Fly–In, Western Star Dancers, San Francisco

April
24-26 CCS Retreat at Fife's, Guerneville—Tentative

June
6 CCS Graduation Workshops and Hoedown, Sacramento.

July
3–5 "Diamonds in the Desert," 9th IAGSDC Convention, Albuquerque



Capital City Squares
Presents its
Graduation Workshops
& Hoedown
Featuring
Joe Kula

Saturday, June 8, 1991

1:00 to 2:30	*Plus Workshop*	*$3.00*
3:00 to 4:30	*Mainstream Workshop*	*$3.00*
7:00 to 9:30	*Hoedown*	*$5.00*
	All Day	*$10.00*

William Land School
12th & V Streets
Sacramento, California

For Information Call
George (916) 447-2271
Cindy (916) 723-7727
Bill (916) 969-5153

May 1991

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			CCS Dance Night 7-9, Wm Land School ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD MS Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF **1**	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville FSD Club Night 7-9, The Corral SF **2**	**3**	**4**
FCD Plus Class 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF **5**	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School **6**	CCS Class Night 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School **7**	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD MS Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF **8**	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville FSD Club Night 7-9, The Corral SF **9**	**10**	**11**
FCD Plus Class 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF **12**	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School **13**	CCS Class Night (Harlan Kerr) 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School **14**	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD MS Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF **15**	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville FSD Club Night 7-9, The Corral SF **16**	**17**	**18**
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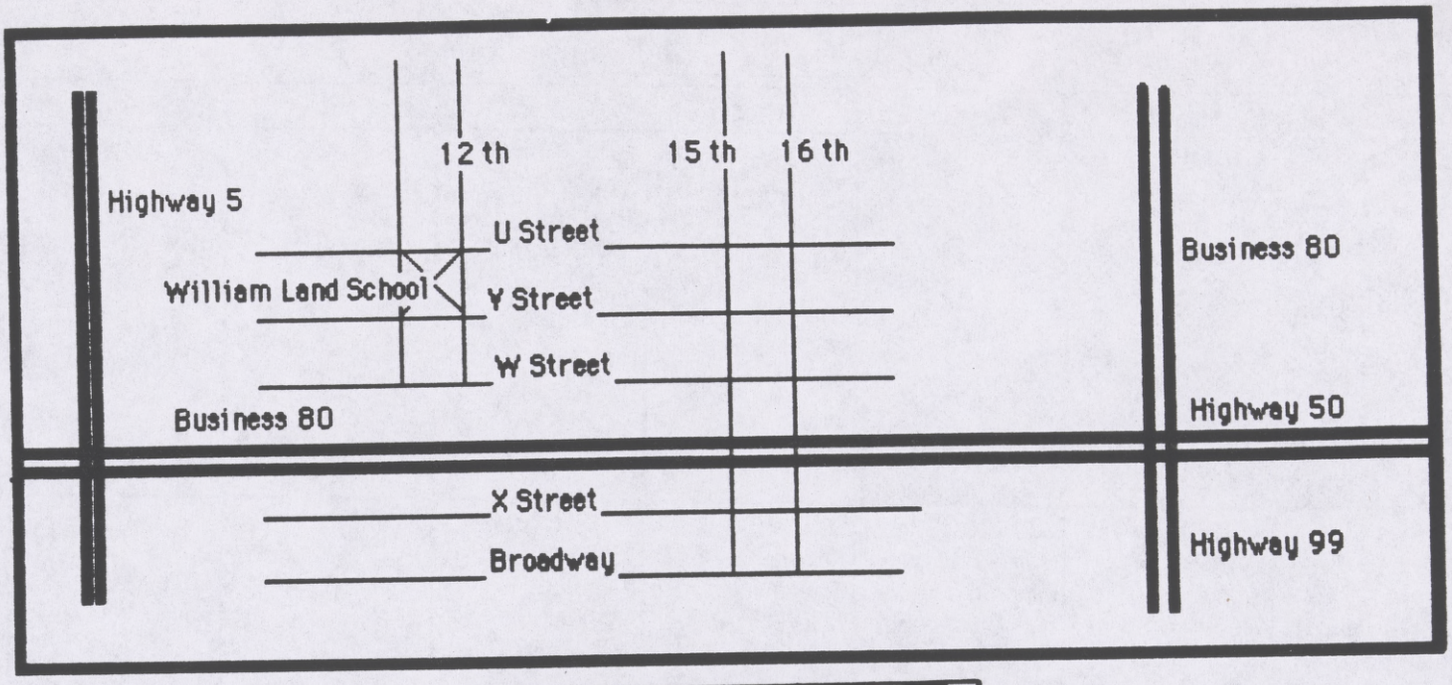
"Cast a Shadow in the Sun" 8th IAGSDC Convention, Miami, FL **26**	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School **27**	CCS Class Night 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School **28**	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD MS Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF **29**	TNT's Party Night 7:30-10:30 Roseville FSD Club Night 7-9, The Corral SF **30**	Dynamite Weekend TNT's, Roseville **31**	



SHOULDER WORK AHEAD

JEFF M. RAMOS
CERTIFIED MASSAGE THERAPIST
(916) 485-0930

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

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